

**REMARKS**

Claims 2, 5-16, 21-24, 31, 32, 60-62, 77-81, 97, 102, 105, 110, and 132 remain pending in connection with the present application. Claims 15, 16, 21, 31 and 32 are amended. No new matter is added.

**ALL CLAIMS NOW ALLOWED**

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the withdrawal of all previous rejections and for the indication that claims 2, 60-62 and 132 are in condition for allowance and that the claims 21-24, 31 and 32 are objected to and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants note that, in an effort to expedite prosecution of these allowable claims, **the previously objected claims are now amended to place them in allowable form (noting that claims 21, 31, and 32 are amended to place them in allowable independent form) and all rejected claims are now cancelled.**

Applicants reserve the right to file Continuations/Divisional Applications on the subject matter of the cancelled claims.

**PREVIOUSLY WITHDRAWN CLAIMS**

Applicants note that several of the withdrawn claims are dependent upon now allowable claims. Accordingly, as dependent claims 5-14, 77-81, 97, 102, 105, and 110 include all of the elements of the allowable claims, which essentially act as linking claims or allowable generic claims, **rejoinder and allowance of these previously withdrawn claims is respectfully requested.**

**35 USC Section 112 REJECTIONS**

The Examiner rejects claims 15 and 16 under 35 USC Section 112 for being dependent upon cancelled claim 4. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 15 and 16 are now amended to correct their dependency and thus overcome the rejection under 35 USC Section 112 caused by previously inadvertently changing a "2" to a "1" and maintaining the claim dependency on cancelled claim 4, instead of merely changing the claims to depend on claim 2 (instead of cancelled claim 4). As the claims are now dependent upon allowed claim 2, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

**PRIOR ART REJECTIONS**

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 33-34, 37-38, 63-67, 71-72, 76 and 139-149 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Kuwata et. al. (US Patent Publication 2002/0044122, the Kuwata '122 publication) in view of USP 5,442,375 to Wojaczynski, the Wojaczynski '375 patent.

While Applicants do not admit to the correct of the rejections, these rejections are now moot in view of the cancellation of the rejected claims. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

**FURTHER PRIOR ART REJECTIONS**

The Examiner further rejected claims 68 and 73 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over the Kuwata '122 publication in view of the Wojaczynski '375 patent and further in view of Yamashita, U.S. Patent Number 6,101,271 (the Yamashita '271 Patent).

While Applicants do not admit to the correct of the rejections, these rejections are now moot in view of the cancellation of the rejected claims. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The Examiner further rejected claims 134, 136 and 138 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over the Kuwata '122 publication and the Wojaczynski '375 patent, and further in view of Smith, U.S. Patent Publication Number 2004/0105105 (the Smith '105 Publication).

While Applicants do not admit to the correct of the rejections, these rejections are now moot in view of the cancellation of the rejected claims. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

**CONCLUSION**

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the objections and rejections and allowance of each of pending claims 2, 5-16, 21-24, 31, 32, 60-62, 77-81, 97, 102, 105, 110, and 132 in connection with the present application is earnestly solicited. Applicants further reserve the right to file

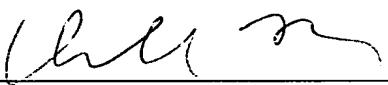
Continuations/Divisional Applications on the subject matter of the cancelled claims.

In the event this Response does not place the present application in condition for allowance, applicant requests the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (703) 668-8000 to schedule a personal interview.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully Submitted,

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